

Union Calendar No. 133

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2392

[Report No. 111–239]

To improve the effectiveness of the Government’s collection, analysis, and dissemination of business information by using modern interactive data technologies.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 13, 2009

Mr. ISSA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

JULY 30, 2009

Additional sponsor: Mr. TOWNS

JULY 30, 2009

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 13, 2009]

A BILL

To improve the effectiveness of the Government’s collection, analysis, and dissemination of business information by using modern interactive data technologies.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 *This Act may be cited as the “Government Information*
 3 *Transparency Act”.*

4 **SEC. 2. DATA STANDARD REQUIREMENTS.**

5 (a) *REQUIREMENT.*—*The Director of the Office of*
 6 *Management and Budget shall adopt a single data standard*
 7 *for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of business*
 8 *and financial information for use by private sector entities*
 9 *in accordance with section 3 for information required to*
 10 *be reported to the Federal Government, and a single data*
 11 *standard for use by agencies within the Federal Government*
 12 *in accordance with section 4 for Federal financial informa-*
 13 *tion.*

14 (b) *CHARACTERISTICS OF DATA STANDARDS.*—*The*
 15 *single data standards required by subsection (a) shall—*

16 (1) *be common across all agencies, to the max-*
 17 *imum extent practicable;*

18 (2) *be a widely accepted, open source, non-pro-*
 19 *prietary, searchable, computer-readable format for*
 20 *business and financial data;*

21 (3) *be consistent with and implement—*

22 (A) *United States generally accepted ac-*
 23 *counting principles or Federal financial account-*
 24 *ing standards (as appropriate);*

25 (B) *industry best practices; and*

26 (C) *Federal regulatory requirements;*

1 (4) *improve the transparency, consistency, and*
2 *usability of business and financial information; and*
3 (5) *be capable of being continually upgraded to*
4 *be of maximum use as technologies and content evolve*
5 *over time.*

6 **SEC. 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF SINGLE DATA STANDARD FOR**
7 **PRIVATE SECTOR.**

8 (a) *OMB GUIDANCE.*—*Not later than 180 days after*
9 *the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the*
10 *Office of Management and Budget shall issue guidance to*
11 *agencies on the use and implementation of the single data*
12 *standard required by section 2 for information required to*
13 *be reported to agencies by the private sector.*

14 (b) *AGENCY REQUIREMENTS.*—

15 (1) *REQUIREMENT.*—*To the maximum extent*
16 *practicable and consistent with the guidance provided*
17 *by the Office of Management and Budget under sub-*
18 *section (a), the head of each agency shall require the*
19 *use of the single data standard required by section 2*
20 *for business and financial information reported to the*
21 *agency by private sector companies.*

22 (2) *IMPLEMENTATION.*—*The head of the agency*
23 *shall begin implementing the requirement of para-*
24 *graph (1) within one year after the date of the enact-*
25 *ment of this Act.*

1 **SEC. 4. IMPLEMENTATION OF SINGLE DATA STANDARD FOR**
2 **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

3 (a) *OMB DEVELOPMENT.*—Not later than 1 year after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the
5 Office of Management and Budget shall develop the single
6 data standard required by section 2 for use by agencies
7 within the Federal Government for Federal financial infor-
8 mation.

9 (b) *OMB GUIDANCE.*—Not later than 18 months after
10 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall issue
11 guidance to agencies on the use and implementation of the
12 single data standard developed under subsection (a).

13 **SEC. 5. PUBLIC ACCESS TO DATA.**

14 The head of each agency shall ensure that information
15 collected using the single data standards required under this
16 Act is accessible to the general public in that format to the
17 extent permitted by law.

18 **SEC. 6. REPORT.**

19 Within one year after the date of the enactment of this
20 Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget
21 shall submit to the Committee on Oversight and Govern-
22 ment Reform of the House of Representatives and the Com-
23 mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of
24 the Senate a report on the status of the implementation of
25 this Act.

1 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

2 *In this Act:*

3 (1) *AGENCY.*—*The term “agency” means any ex-*
4 *ecutive department, military department, Government*
5 *corporation, Government controlled corporation, inde-*
6 *pendent establishment, or other establishment in the*
7 *executive branch of the Government (including the*
8 *Executive Office of the President), or any independent*
9 *regulatory agency, but does not include—*

10 (A) *the Government Accountability Office;*

11 (B) *the Federal Election Commission;*

12 (C) *the governments of the District of Co-*
13 *lumbia and of the territories and possessions of*
14 *the United States, and their various subdivi-*
15 *sions; or*

16 (D) *Government-owned contractor-operated*
17 *facilities, including laboratories engaged in na-*
18 *tional defense research and production activities.*

19 (2) *EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, MILITARY DEPART-*
20 *MENT, GOVERNMENT CORPORATION, GOVERNMENT*
21 *CONTROLLED CORPORATION, INDEPENDENT ESTAB-*
22 *LISHMENT.*—*The terms “Executive department”,*
23 *“military department”, “Government corporation”,*
24 *“Government controlled corporation”, and “inde-*
25 *pendent establishment” have the meanings given those*
26 *terms by chapter 1 of title 5, United States Code.*

1 (3) *INDEPENDENT REGULATORY AGENCY.*—*The*
2 *term “independent regulatory agency” has the mean-*
3 *ing given that term by section 3502(5) of title 44,*
4 *United States Code.*

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